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Appomattox, Virginia

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EDITORIAL OPINION

HOLIDAY SAFETY

Christmas is a season of goodwill and thanksgiving. Our thoughts are universally with others whether they be for our families, friends or for humanity as a whole. The world today is very much in need of such feeling among mankind. So, for this brief period, we contribute heavily to charity, we assure some of the Christmas joys for less fortunate individuals, we visit the sick, we spend more than we can afford on our families and we are probably more conscious of the spiritual side of life than is usual.

We also, as a whole, drink too much and are apparently more careless about the un-Christian acts we perform in traffic. These acts kill, main, bereave and destroy and they are made more deadly by seasonal dangers.

In support of this contention, here are some truly frightening statistics just released by our Governor's Highway Safety Committee.

For the first six months of this year, 26.6 per cent of the drivers involved in Virginia's fatal traffic crashes were known to have been drinking.

Nearly 16 per cent of the pedestrians killed were known also to have been drinking and this percentage is all the more serious when it is considered that just about one-third were below the age of 21. Both figures forbode no good when we realize that drinking is far more prevalent in December than any other month of the year.

Last Christmas Eve 11 people died in Virginia traffic. Last Christmas Day 12 more died. December 21 through December 25 inclusive saw 42 deaths. Ninety-three more were killed during the entire month and no other months came within 10 of this awful toll.

Drinking is not the only danger of the season contributing to such slaughter. Traffic is heavy. There are more hours of darkness than at any other time of the year and records show, approximately, that two-thirds of our deaths occur during hours of dusk and darkness although only one-third of total traffic moves then. The "going home" hour is almost completely in darkness. Rural residents, unfamiliar with heavy urban traffic, drive into town for shopping. Both drivers and pedestrians allow thoughts of the season to crowd common sense practices out of their heads. Children are out of school and into the streets.

Read these tragic statistics again and try to look upon them not as cold statistics but as human beings for whom there will be no more Christmases. Then resolve that no act of yours is going to cause you to give your life for Christmas or make a horrible travesty on Christmas for anyone else.

—Contributed.

To Relieve Misery of COLDS take 666
LIQUID OR TABLETS—SAME FAST RELIEF

75 YEARS FROM NOW

(Atlanta Constitution)

What will the "welfare state" look like 75 years from now, presuming that it still exists in somewhat the same form?

Well, there are people who are thinking about it. They are looking ahead at the Social Security Administration and figuring that at that time the New Deal agency, that will outlive most of the others, will be quite a baby.

In fact, writes Rep. Harold C. Ostertag, it could be in somewhat of a crisis.

"Within three generations," says Rep. Ostertag, "Social Security will be the largest single domestic program in our national life. It will cost more than our entire federal government costs today, aside from national defense. This is not alarmist talk .. Our job, therefore, is to see that it works equitably and that it does the job for which it was intended .. Social Security is no gravy train."

The gentleman from New York is right on all counts. Social Security is a permanent and growing part of our national life. To date it has been made to work in a manner far more satisfactoryily than its authors thought possible. As the population continues to grow and as the number of older people increases, it will become more an integral part of the national economy. And outside of a revolution, it is very apt to stay.

JUST A DREAMER

(The Eastern Shore News)

The lady was discussing her son's progress in school in a voice loud enough for most of the other people to hear. The marks she quotes him as having gained sounded quite good, though not excellent. But she obviously wasn't satisfied. It seemed she felt he should be at the top of his class. With a long suffering sigh, she repeatedly offered her explanation of why he didn't come first.

"But," she would complain, "he's a dreamer, you know, he's such a dreamer."

This mother is not unique in her attitude. Since pioneer days there has grown on this continent a tradition that only men of action can achieve success in any field. Nothing could be more false. Those pioneers were the greatest dreamers of all. They dreamed of far countries as yet unexplored, of cities unbuilt, of roads unbroken, before they set to work to bring them into being. They were men of action, yes, but the dream came first.

What were Columbus and Cortez and Cartier but dreaemrs?

The dreamers have done the exploring in more than geographical spheres. Watt dreamed of a steam engine and Edison of an incandescent lamp and Bell of a telephone and the Wright Brothers of their flying machine. Then they set to work to make their dreams come true.

It is wise to remember, too that the "whiz kids" of the classroom often fade into anonymity in adult life. Remember the boys and girls who always came first? How many of them are still coming first? Their high marks often meant that they were able to work well at the problems that were set before them in a manner prescribed for them — with teacher nearby to direct or advise. There are few problems met in adult life that can be solved "by book," and there isn't any teacher around. Meanwhile, the "dreamer" very often had something the "bright" youngster lacked — imagination, vision.

A few years ago there was a youngster at Harrow who was noticeably unsuccessful in his lessons. As he grew older he showed little scholastic improvement. He failed three times to pass the Sandhurst entrance examinations.

Today he is renowned as one of the world's greatest historians, as well as statesman,military strategist, prophet and scholar. His name is Winston Churchill, a man who is definitely "a dreamer."

CHURCHILL AT 80

(The Bedford Democrat)

A memorable birthday will be celebrated next week. Winston Churchill will reach the age of 80 next Tuesday, and it is safe to predict that this will be the occasion of a deluge of congratulation and admiration such as few living men ever have had showered on them. At 80 Mr. Churchill (it is difficult to remember that he is now Sir Winston) still is the active head of the government of a great power, and although age has begun to take its toll he remains one of the three most influencial men in the world. His active career has spanned more than half a century and he alone was a major figure in both the Great Wars that have made this century so tragic.

The titantic sweep of history in those decades has swept several men to dizzy heights of power and made them monumental figures in the history of our race, for good or evil—Lenin and Stalin, Hitler and Mussolini, Wilson, Roosevelt and Churchill, to name the foremost. It is not in every age that men can feel that they live with true greatness, but those who have come through the terrible agonies of the first half of this century can be sure that they have been contemporaries of at least one truly great man. There is nothing in all history quite like the picture of Winston Churchill after Dunkirk, when Britain stood alone and almost defenseless against the threat of invasion by Hitler's hordes. If ever one man saved civilization in time of great peril, it was Churchill then with his unconquerable spirit and his magnificant oratory. He not only lived and made great history but he has written it also, a unique combination.

As he passes the eightieth milestone the picture becomes blurred a little; he is no longer the heroic figure of 1940. But he continues to shoulder heavy responsibility, largely because of his hope that by some other miracle of the spirit and the spoken word he can bring true peace between Western Civilization and the barbarians of the East. His staunchest admirers begin to hope that he will not persist too long in this hope and effort, for they want to remember him as a man who rallied Britons to "their finest hour" and helped bring civilization through its greatest peril up to that time. Younger men must face up to the still deadlier menace that has arisen since.

13TH ANNIVERSARY

Tuesday will be the 13th anniversary of Pearl Harbor. Americans will never forget the tragedy of the sneak attack on our Pacific bastion, and the sad events of the following months, when we set out to prepare for an all-out war on several fronts.

The lesson to be remembered on this anniversary, is preparedness. We were caught off guard in the Pacific and paid a bitter price because of it. Today we are spending vast sums, far up in the billions, to keep our guard up.

One way we can help to keep alert is by supporting the Ground Observer Corps. This group of patriotic citizens works to protect us from another sneak attack, and this time we know that any such sneak attack would be against the mainland.

It is the simple, yet terrible truth, that every area of metropolitan size in the United States is within less than 4,500 miles from European and Asiatic bombing bases. From these bases, long range bombers could launch a ruinous attack on our vital centers and paralyze the nation. If the enemy came, as the enemy did at Pearl Harbor, would we be on guard?

One hundred minutes of atomic hell might destroy our capacity to wage a war, and bring on defeat.

Every day, every hour, America must BE PREPARED.

Spout Spring

Spout Spring, Nov. 30.- Mr. and Mrs. Ray Garretti and son, Ray, of New York, were recent guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Carson.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Moon and daughter, Margaret visited Mr. and Mrs. Roy Moon Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Dunsmore, of Richmond; Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Charleubois and daughter, of Roanoke, were guests in the home of Mr. E. F. Smith Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. William Nash visited Mr. and Mrs. Billy Reynolds on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Cyrus were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Tucker Cheatham Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Carson children spent Thanksgiving the home of her mother.

Mrs. Ella Collins, of Port is visiting friends here.

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From where I sit ... *by* Joe Marsh

Going—Going—
But Not Gone!

Saturday they got set to auction off "Sis" Brown's house for non-payment of taxes. Buck Stone was the auctioneer. Everybody who came to the auction knew that "Sis" is a war widow.

When Buck began the bidding he said, "Anybody can bid. Just remember 'Sis' and three nice kids live here. Now *who's* going to start the bidding?"

There was silence. "Sis," standing in back, got the point. She reached into her purse for just about all the money she had in the world. "I'll bid $75," she said.

"Sold," bellowed Buck and "Sis" had her home back.

From where I sit, Buck Stone used a helping hand instead of a gavel. It was real neighborliness. You know, even in something as small as respecting another's choice of beverage, a person can be neighborly. You might like buttermilk. I'm "sold" on a temperate glass of beer. And I can't "buy" anyone's telling me I'm wrong.

Joe Marsh

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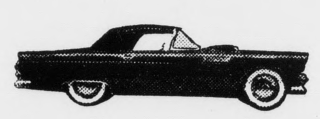
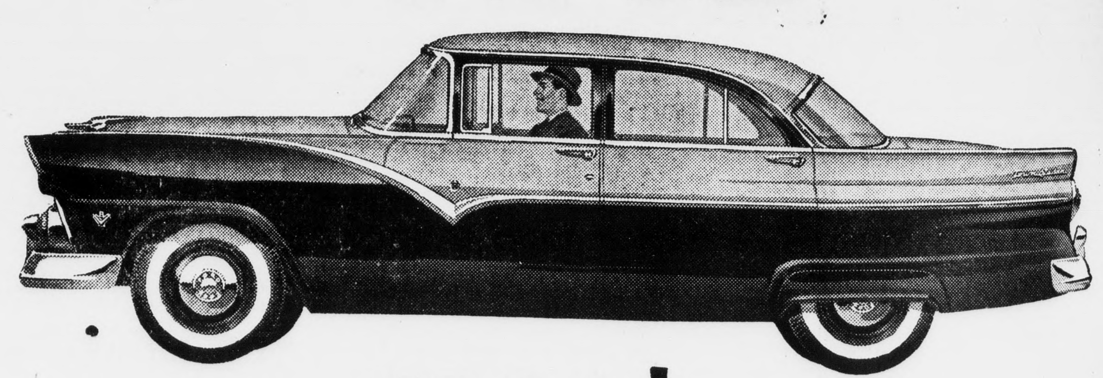
Why not own the car most people want?



Only car with Thunderbird Styling

The agile beauty that Ford stylists captured in the Thunderbird is now yours in all Ford models for 1955. This *advanced* Ford styling will *stay* in style to help make your Ford worth more when you finally trade it in!

By now, you've probably seen a '55 Ford parked on the street. You've stopped to admire its sleek Thunderbird styling . . . its gleaming finish and luxurious new interior trim. You are not alone in your admiration. For, based on the great initial excitement this car has aroused, we estimate that Ford will be '55's most popular seller, by far. On this page are a few examples of the many advances which have caused this enthusiastic public response. See your Ford Dealer to learn of the many more advances that are built into the '55 Ford.



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Ford's 3 new, mighty engines all bring you Trigger-Torque Performance. There's the new 162-h.p. Y-block V-8 with 272 cu. in. displacement and higher (7.6 to 1) compression ratio . . . a new 182-h.p. Y-block Special V-8 offered with Fordomatic Drive in Fairlane and Station Wagon models . . . and the new 120-h.p. I-block Six. All deliver Ford's traditional economy.

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Ford's Ball-Joint Front Suspension is further improved for 1955. Now re-engineered so front springs tilt back, this advanced suspension absorbs shock from the *front*, as well as up-and-down! This reduces annoying "road-joint jar." Riding and handling are much smoother. Take a Test Drive, that's really the best way to see.

And why not own it now for a full '55 of fun

'55 FORD

F.D.A.F.

... CONTEST ... COMES IN

...ing to William C. Killner, ... editor of Virginia Wildlife ...man of the Eighth Annual ... Essay Contest, 173 schools ...ave entered and the Com... of Game and Inland Fisher... ...ding out essay packets to ...s whose entry forms are

...ontest has been enlarged this ...include a $400 college schol... ...grade 12, in addition to ... cash prizes in grades 5- ...e of the contest this year ... Natural Resources (soil, ...lants and wildlife) . . Their ... on Man." The contest will ...bruary 28, 1955.

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Richwood

Richwood, Nov. 30.- "When a man finds no peace within himself, it is useless to seek it elsewhere."
—Quoted.

Divine services at Central Baptist Church Sunday morning.

Joan Harvey, a student at Longwood College spent the Thanksgiving holidays at home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dewitt Harvey.

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Ferguson and daughter, Judy, of Lynchburg, were the week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Wooldridge.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Holden and baby, who have been making their home with Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Byers, have returned to Akron, O., to live.

Mr. G. T. Marsh spent the week-end in Lynchburg with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Julian Reed and children were the week-end guests of Mr. John Moore and family.

G. P. Brannan and daughters, Val and Georgie Belle, and Travis Wooldridge were in Lynchburg on business Friday.

Mr. John Moore and family have moved into the Walter Lee house.

C. M. Rush was in Lynchburg on business Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Woodall, of Lynchburg were the dinner guests Thursday of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Pugh and Mr. Marsh.

Play safe—drive carefully.

SOCIAL SECURITY MAKES RECORDS ESSENTIAL

For some time it has been necessary that many farmers keep records on money paid out for labor in order that proper reports and payment of funds could be made on farm laborers on account of Social Security. Though farm record keeping has always been a useful tool in appraising one's progress, it has often been a despised and neglected chore.

With the inclusion of self employed farmers in the Social Security system, effective January 1, 1955, accurate record keeping will quickly become a must. Net earnings will govern the extent of contributions, hence the necessity for a bit of record keeping.

It is expected too that thousands of additional farm workers, not heretofore eligible, will be brought under the system. This too will necessitate accurate record keeping for the new law brings old-age and survivors insurance protection to all farm workers who earn as much as $100 cash pay in a year from any one farmer.

Additional rulings and interpretations of the Soical Security laws, as amended, are yet to be made. For example, Government officials are lacking an answer to specific questions relative to migratory workers. When such details are fully answered, local farmers will be advised through the newspapers.

Meanwhile, farmers who are eligible for social security should request a Social Security number.

Stonewall

Stonewall, Nov. 30.- Let us hope that December will be a nice month to get ready for old Santa, who will soon be on his way here.

All of the farmers around here are at the tobacco sales today. Do hope the tobacco will all sell good, as the farmers have to work so hard over the crops all the year long.

Rev. and Mrs. Floy Cox had as their guests over the holidays, his mothef, Mrs. Brazier and his brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Cox, of South Carolina.

Mrs. Parks Jennings and daughter, Frances spent the holidays with relatives in Washington and Richmond. Mr. Jennings motored to Richmond on Sunday to be with them and Mrs. Jennings returned home with him and Frances will visit on longer.

We are all so sorry to know that Mrs. Henry Drinkard fell last week and broke her shoulder. Glad she is doing so well. We hope her a speedy get well. Mrs. E. L. Chick and Mrs. Henry Beard visited her on Saturday in the Memorial Hospital in Lynchbrug.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Carson and little daughter, of Roanoke, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Carson.

The Thanksgiving service that was held for the churches of the community at Bethel Church last Thursday, was one of the best and most helpful that has been held here for a long time. The Rev. Floy W. Cox, Dr. Twyman Williams and the Rev. F. J. Wingfield, pastors in charge, did their very best, and everyone that missed it, missed a blessing.

Mr. Parks Jennings spent last Thursday with Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Jennings and family at Bedford City.

LITTLE CHANGE IN PROFITS SEEN FOR BROILER PRODUCERS

Profits for broiler producers in 1955 will likely not vary much from this year, say agricultural economists at VPI, and that's not so good.

The prediction is based primarily on the likeelihood that production will continue at or near 1954 levels and the prospect of little change in production costs during the coming year.

In recent years broiler production has not been as sensitive to price changes as in the past. At times chick placements have increased during periods of declining prices. For example, this year (1954), the price of broilers was about 12% below last year, yet about 8% more chicks were placed.

With the present system of feed-dealer-financing there is little reason to expect the situation will change, the econoimsts say. At a "break-even point" for the producer, feed dealers who are in the business of financing usually still make a margin of profit on their feed. Competition forces these dealers to maintain or expand their volume of business.

Under dealer-financing the producer takes little or no risk so far as the cash costs of production are concerned. For this reason, even during periods of "break - even" prices most broilermen continue to produce at or above normal level because "probably the prices will be more favorable when the birds are ready for market."

Direct or out-of-pocket costs make up about 88% of the total cost of producing broilers. Of the direct costs, feed accounts for 72%; the chicks 22%; and fuel, medicine, litter and other supplies, 6%. Feed therefore, is the main item of cost in producing broilers.

Feed costs can be reduced in two ways: (1) reduction of feed prices and (2) more efficient use of feed. Little change is expected in the price of feed, at least until the 1955 crops enter the picture. Consequently, the broiler producer's largest opportunity to reduce production costs and increase profits in 1955 lies in improved use of feed. Little change is expected in the price of broiler chicks and other production supplies.

WEATHER PUTS A DAMPER ON HUNTING DEER

Rain and fog interfered considerably with deer hunters west of the Blue Ridge Mountains last week and the same is true this week east of the Blue Ridge. For that reason there are so far few reports to indicate the population of game, especially east of the mountains.

There has been a slow drizzle of rain practically all week in eastern Virginia.

Weather conditions do not interfere much, however, with hunters east of the Blue Ridge as with those west of the mountains because in the east we have a 45-day open season and a hunter can pick his days.

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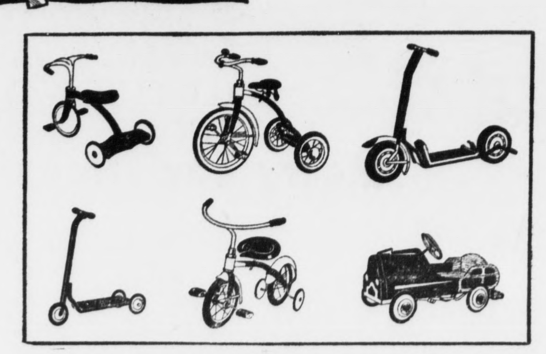

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